

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-13 SS-15 NSC-05 CIAE-00 INR-07
NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 L-03 SCA-01 DHA-02 USIE-00 SSO-00
NSCE-00 INRE-00 SP-02 H-01 /064 W
-----161346Z 063303 /45

O R 161310Z FEB 77
FM AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2090
INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
RUEHMO / AMEMBASSY MOSCOW 1905
AMEMBASSY SOFIA
AMEMBASSY WARSAW
AMEMBASSY VIENNA
USMISSION USBERLIN
USMISSION NATO
USUN NY 519

C O N F I D E N T I A L PRAGUE 0427

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, SOPN, PINS, CZ, CSCE, SHUM
SUBJECT: PROTEST TO ACTING FOREIGN MINISTER RE HOFFMAN DETENTION

REF: PRAGUE 421, FROWICK-BROWN TELCON FEBRUARY 14

1. TO COMPLETE THE RECORD ON OUR HANDLING OF HOFFMAN CASE, DEPARTMENT SHOULD BE AWARE THAT ON EVENING OF FEBRUARY 14 AS INDICATED IN FROWICK-BROWN TELCON, POLCOUNSELOR DISCUSSED THE HOFFMAN CASE AT SOME LENGTH WITH ACTING DIRECTOR OF MFA SIXTH DEPARTMENT NOVOTNY. POLCOUNSELOR OPENED BY SAYING THAT, SINCE NO SENIOR MFA OFFICIAL HAD YET RECEIVED THE AMBASSADOR, THE EMBASSY WANTED MFA TO HAVE NO DOUBTS AS TO DEPTH AND HIGH LEVEL OF USG INTEREST IN THE HOFFMAN CASE AND IN TREATMENT OF US
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JOURNALISTS IN GENERAL. HE THEN FOLLOWED THE SAME LINE AS TAKEN BY AMBASSADOR BYRNE WITH ACTING MINISTER VEJVODA THE NEXT DAY (PARA 3 REFTEL).

2. NOVOTNY HAD LITTLE TO SAY IN RETURN, EXCEPT THAT FACTS AS REPORTED TO MFA DID NOT AGREE WITH HOFFMAN'S STATEMENTS. HE ALSO RATHER MILDLY POINTED OUT THAT HE COULD BRING UP UNFAVORABLE

TREATMENT OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA BY THE AMERICAN PRESS, TO WHICH
POLCOUNSELOR REPLIED THAT HARASSMENT OF JOURNALISTS WAS NEITHER
PROPER WAY TO INFLUENCE THEIR REPORTING NOR A LIKELY WAY TO
GAIN MORE FAVORABLE TREATMENT.
BYRNE

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
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Concepts: DETENTION, DIPLOMATIC PROTESTS, JOURNALISTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 16-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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TAGS: PFOR, SOPN, PINS, SHUM, CZ, US, CSCE, (HOFFMAN, PAUL)
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vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/16e8a1c5-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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